

1 Amended Claims

2 Please cancel claims 1-22.

3
4 28. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27
5 wherein the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen comprises
6 $\text{Si}_x\text{N}_y\text{O}_z\text{:H}$, wherein x is from 0.39 to 0.65, y is from 0.02 to 0.56, and
7 z is from 0.05 to 0.33.

8
9 29. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27
10 wherein the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen physically
11 contacts the metal silicide layer.

12
13 30. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27
14 wherein the silicon nitride layer physically contacts the layer comprising
15 silicon, nitrogen and oxygen.

16
17 31. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27
18 wherein the silicon nitride layer physically contacts the layer comprising
19 silicon, nitrogen and oxygen, and the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen
20 and oxygen physically contacts the metal silicide layer.